

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-11
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20 INT-05 HA-05
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R 182324Z MAY 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1440
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USLO PEKING
CINCPACREP GUAM

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 02022

DEPARTMENT PASS TO INTERIOR FOR OMSN AND OTA

CINCPACREP PASS TO HICOM FOR STATUS LNO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PORG, UNTC, TQ
SUBJECT: 45TH SESSION OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL (TC):
PETITIONERS STATEMENTS

1. SUMMARY: TC HELD A.M. MEETING ON MAY 17 AT WHICH IT
HEARD STATEMENTS BY FOLLOWING PETITIONERS: ROMAN
TMETUCHL, CHAIRMAN OF THE PALAU POLITICAL STATUS COMMIS-
SION; IROIJ LITOKWA TOMEING, PRESIDENT OF THE VOICE
OF THE MARSHALLS; SPEAKER SILMAI OF THE PALAU DISTRICT
LEGISLATURE, WHO READ STATEMENT OF SANTOS OLIKONG,
CHAIRMAN OF THE PALAU SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON WAR DAMAGE
CLAIMS SETTLEMENT; ROGER BALDWIN AND ROGER CLARK OF THE
INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. ADDITIONAL
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PETITIONERS WILL BE HEARD AT A.M. MTG ON MAY 18.
END SUMMARY.

2. PALAU POLITICAL STATUS CHAIRMAN TMETUCHL
SAID HE OPPOSED A SUPERPORT IN PALAU AND THAT WITH
REASONABLE US ASSISTANCE IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR
PALAU TO MOVE TOWARDS SELF-RELIANCE WITH OUT A SUPER-

PORT. DISCUSSING CONDITIONS ON PALAU, HE SAID THERE WAS NO PRODUCTIVE WORK FOR EDUCATED YOUNG PALAUNS AND THAT THERE WAS A HIDEOUSLY HIGH SUICIDE RATE AMONG THEM. HE SAID THAT AN AMERICAN INSPIRED BUREAUCRACY HAD GROWN IN ISOLATION WHILE THE PRODUCTIVE SECTOR HAD BEEN ENTIRELY IGNORED. CIRCULATING SERIES OF PHOTOGRAPHS OF PALAU BEFORE 1940 AND AFTER 30 YEARS OF TRUSTEESHIP, HE SAID THAT DURING THE YEARS OF TRUSTEESHIP THE EXTENSIVE PUBLIC FACILITIES HAVE RETURNED TO JUNGLE AND THE SOCIETY HAS DETERIORATED. HE SAID CONTINUED PALAUAN DEPENDENCY ON US SUBSIDIES WAS UNDESIRABLE AND HE WAS CONFIDENT PRESIDENT CARTER'S ADMINISTRATION DID NOT WISH TO FOSTER DEPENDENCY. HOWEVER, UNLESS PERIOD OF FREE ASSOCIATION WAS ACCOMPANIED BY SUFFICIENT RESOURCES TO ACCOMPLISH THE GOAL OF SELF-SUFFICIENCY, PALAU WOULD BE A PERPETUAL WELFARE STATE. HE THEN DISCUSSED THE MINIMAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ACHIEVING DIGNIFIED SELF-RELIANCE WHICH INCLUDED ASSISTANCE IN EXPANDING THE PRODUCTIVE CAPACITY OF HARBORS AND A FUNCTIONING COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM. HE SAID IT WAS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE PALAU WITH THE MEANS TO EASE THE TRANSITION FROM DEPENDENCY TO SELF-SUFFICIENCY. HE CITED THE NEED FOR THE CREATION OF AN INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, SUBJECT TO COMMERCIAL TESTING AND

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THE NEED TO DEVELOP PALAU'S AGRICULTURAL POTENTIAL. HE SUPPORTED "FAIR" FREE ASSOCIATION WITH THE US. HE STATED THAT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION HAD MADE SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS IN ITS NEGOTIATIONS BY RECOGNIZING THE POLITICAL REQUIREMENTS OF SELF-DETERMINATION AS ESTABLISHED BY THE UN BUT THAT RECENT BUDGET CUTS BY THE ADMINISTRATION HAD HAD A DRASTIC IMPACT ON PALAU. HE SAID NEGOTIATIONS WERE ENTERING A CRITICAL STATE AND PARTICIPATION BY THOSE WITH A DIRECT RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PROTECTION OF INTERNATIONAL LEGAL REQUIREMENTS WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL.

3. VOICE OF THE MARSHALLS SPOKESMAN TOMEING SAID THAT THOSE WHO WANTED TO SEPARATE THE MARSHALLS FROM MICRONESIA DID NOT REPRESENT A CLEAR MAJORITY. THE VOICE OF THE MARSHALLS AND THE PEOPLE IT REPRESENTS SUPPORT UNITY UNDER THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTION FOR THE FEDERATED STATES AND SUPPORT AN AGREEMENT OF FREE ASSOCIATION WITH THE US UNDER THAT CONSTITUTION. HE URGENTLY REQUESTED THAT THE APPROPRIATE UN ORGANIZATION BOTH OBSERVE AND SUPERVISE THE FORTHCOMING REFERENDUM SO THE PEOPLE OF THE MARSHALLS

WOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO EXERCISE THEIR RIGHT OF SELF-
DETERMINATION WITHOUT ANY IMPROPER INTERNAL OR
EXTERNAL PRESSURES. IN EXPLAINING HIS CONCERN OVER
IMPROPER PRESSURES, HE CITED EVENTS SURROUNDING THE
UNOFFICIAL REFERENDUM OF JULY 1977 SPONSORED BY THE
MARSHALLS STATUS COMMISSION. HE SAID THAT PRIOR
TO THAT REFERENDUM SOME LEADERS IN THE MARSHALLS
DEMANDED THAT THEIR PEOPLE SUPPORT SEPARATION OR THEY
WOULD BE EVICTED FROM THEIR LAND. HE SAID
THAT PEOPLE HAVE AGAIN BEEN TOLD THAT IF THEY
VOTE FOR UNITY IN THE UPCOMING REFERENDUM, THEY WILL

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BE EVICTED FROM THEIR LANDS. IF IN THE ABSENCE OF
CLOSE AND ACTIVE SUPERVISION BY THE UN THESE TACTICS
ARE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE AND, IF BY OTHER QUESTIONABLE
MEANS THE FORCES FOR SEPARATION PREVAIL BY A SLIM
MARGIN, NO ONE WOULD BE ABLE TO PREDICT WHAT MIGHT
HAPPEN IN THE MARSHALLS IN THE FUTURE. HE URGED
THE TC TO RECONSIDER ITS DECISION NOT TO HAVE AN
OBSERVER ON EBEEYE. HE REMINDED THE TC AND THE
ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY THAT SEPARATION DID NOT

NECESSARILY RESPECT THE INTEGRITY OF DISTRICT
BOUNDARIES.

4. PALAU WAR CLAIMS SPOKESMAN SAID THE COMMISSION ON
WAR CLAIMS HAD TRIED TO SECURE FULL PAYMENT. HE SAID
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JAPAN AND THE US JOINTLY OWE MICRONESIAN CLAIMANTS AT
LEAST \$24 MILLION AND THE US ALONE STILL OWES \$12
MILLION. HE QUESTIONED HOW AND WHEN THE "SHAMEFULLY"
OVERDUE OBLIGATIONS WOULD BE PAID. HE SAID THE
CONTINUED NON-PAYMENT OF WAR CLAIMS THREATENED THE
HOPEFUL CLIMATE OF THE STATUS TALKS. HE SAID THE
TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT WAS A GRANT TO THE US OF TOTAL
FOREIGN AFFAIRS CONTROL OVER MICRONESIA AND IT CARRIED
WITH IT A CORRESPONDING OBLIGATION TO REPRESENT THE
INTERESTS OF MICRONESIANS BEFORE FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.
THEREFORE, THE US HAD A DUTY TO PRESS MOST VIGOROUSLY
THE WAR CLAIMS OF MICRONESIANS AT THE
HIGHEST LEVELS OF ITS BILATERAL CONTACT WITH THE
JAPANESE AND TO LINK PROMPT WAR CLAIMS SETTLEMENT
WITH OTHER ISSUES OF MUTUAL CONCERN.

5. HONORARY INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
PRESIDENT, ROGER BALDWIN MADE BRIEF STATEMENT AND
THEN INTRODUCED CLARK WHO WAS MAIN SPEAKER FOR THE
LEAGUE. CLARK SAID THE COVENANT OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANAS (NMI) HAD BEEN ADOPTED WITHOUT GIVING THE
INHABITANTS AN ADEQUATE OPPORTUNITY TO CONSIDER
ALTERNATIVES TO THE COVENANT. HE CONSIDERED IT
REGRETTABLE THAT THE TC HAD FAILED TO GUARANTEE
THE RIGHTS OF SELF-DETERMINATION TO THE PEOPLE OF
THE NMI. HE SAID THE LEAGUE WAS ENCOURAGED BY THE PROCESS
PROGRESS MADE OVER THE PAST YEAR IN THE NEGOTIATIONS
RELATING TO TERMINATION OF THE TA. WHILE
CONSIDERING THE FORMULA WITHIN THE HILO PRINCIPLES AS
ESSENTIALLY SOUND, HE FELT THERE WERE AREAS THAT
COULD CAUSE FUTURE PROBLEMS. HE CONSIDERED THE
LANGUAGE OF PRINCIPLE 6 TO BE SOMEWHAT ONE-SIDED IN
THE POWERS IT GAVE TO THE U.S., AND THE ECONOMIC
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LEVERAGE THAT THE US WOULD HAVE UNDER THE TERMINATION
PROVISION WOULD MAKE UNILATERAL TERMINATION
DIFFICULT. HE SAID THAT WHILE THE LEAGUE WAS
CAUTIOUSLY OPTIMISTIC WITH RESPECT TO THE HILO

PRINCIPLES THAT OPTIMISM DID NOT CARRY OVER TO
OTHER ASPECTS OF THE TRUST RELATIONSHIP SUCH AS LAND
AND ECONOMY OF MICRONESIA, DISPOSITION OF WAR AND
POST-WAR DAMAGE CLAIMS, AND INSUFFICIENT
INVOLVEMENT OF THE UN IN THE SELF-DETERMINATION
PROCESS. IN EACH PREVIOUS INSTANCE IN WHICH A
POLITICAL STATUS OF LESS THAN TOTAL INDEPENDENCE WAS
BEING CONSIDERED, THE UN HAD ALWAYS SUPERVISED
RATHER THAN OBSERVED PLEBISCITES INVOLVING TRUST
TERRITORIES. IT WAS THEREFORE UP TO THE TC TO
SUPERVISE FUTURE ELECTIONS AND TAKE OTHER STEPS IN
GUIDING THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY IN CARRYING OUT ITS
MANDATE.
LEONARD

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